

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for enabling E-commerce transactions
- 2 between a vendor and a consumer, the method
- 3 comprising the steps of:
 - 4 providing a secured network that stores
 - 5 consumer data and approved vendor
 - 6 information;
 - 7 receiving transaction information at the
 - 8 secured network;
 - 9 processing the transaction information to
 - 10 determine whether the transaction
 - 11 information conforms with the stored
 - 12 consumer data and approved vendor
 - 13 information; and
 - 14 delivering the stored consumer data to the
 - 15 vendor if the transaction information
 - 16 is determined to conform with the
 - 17 stored consumer data and approved
 - 18 vendor information.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of
2 providing a secured network further comprises:

3 providing a virtual private network (VPN)
4 that enables secured communication of
5 the transaction information.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of
2 processing the transaction information to
3 determine whether the transaction information
4 conforms with the stored consumer data and
5 approved vendor information further comprises:

6 determining whether the transaction
7 information contains a consumer
8 identification indicator; and
9 determining whether the transaction
10 information contains a vendor
11 identification indicator

1 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

2 determining whether the consumer
3 identification indicator conforms with
4 the stored consumer data; and

5 determining whether the vendor
6 identification indicator conforms with
7 the stored approved vendor
8 information.

1 5. An apparatus for enabling E-commerce
2 transactions between a vendor and a consumer,
3 the apparatus comprising:
4 a secured network that stores consumer data
5 and approved vendor information;
6 a transaction receiver that receives
7 transaction information at the secured
8 network;
9 a processor that processes the transaction
10 information to determine whether the
11 transaction information conforms with
12 the stored consumer data and approved
13 vendor information; and
14 a delivery module that delivers the stored
15 consumer data to the vendor if the
16 transaction information is determined
17 to conform with the stored consumer
18 data and approved vendor information.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the secured
2 network further comprises:

3 a virtual private network (VPN) that
4 enables secured communication of the
5 transaction information.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the processor
2 further comprises:

3 a consumer identification module that
4 determines whether the transaction
5 information contains a consumer
6 identification indicator; and
7 a vendor identification module that
8 determines whether the transaction
9 information contains a vendor
10 identification indicator.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the consumer
2 identification module further comprises
3 a first conformity module that determines
4 whether the consumer identification

5 indicator conforms with the stored
6 consumer data; and
7 wherein the vendor identification module
8 further comprises
9 a second conformity module that determines
10 whether the vendor identification
11 indicator conforms with the stored
12 approved vendor information.

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